

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today Congressman John W. Olver released the following statement in response to the President's FY09 budget proposal:

"The president's budget is more of the same - safeguarding tax cuts for the rich while pumping billions in new money into the economy."

"If a program helps the elderly or the poor, this president sees it as an immediate target for savings. It is a budget that puts the needs of the wealthy ahead of the needs of the middle class and the poor."

"The president's request also takes a sledgehammer to Medicare and Medicaid by slowing growth \$14.2 billion over the next five years."

"Not only is this a harmful budget, it is also a highly deceptive budget. Although the Administration claims to be cutting \$140 billion over the next five years, the reality is that the budget is a massive increase in spending."

"This budget was dead on arrival. I will work with my colleagues to ensure that our nation's priorities are reflected in the final budget."

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